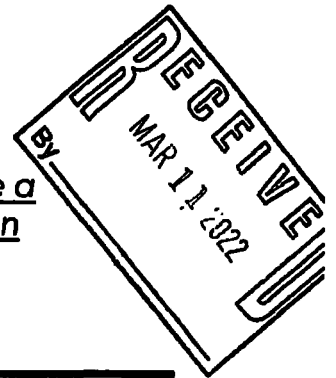


ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD
1740 W. ADAMS ST., SUITE 4600, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
PHONE (602) 364-1PET (1738) FAX (602) 364-1039
VETBOARD.AZ.GOV

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION FORM

If there is an issue with more than one veterinarian please file a separate Complaint Investigation Form for each veterinarian

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: March 11, 2022 Case Number: 22-102

A. THIS COMPLAINT IS FILED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING:

Name of Veterinarian/CVT: Timothy Chiasson
Premise Name: Exceptional Pets
Premise Address: 2585 N. Abrego Dr
City: Green Valley State: AZ Zip Code: 85614
Telephone: (520) 595-3010

B. INFORMATION REGARDING THE INDIVIDUAL FILING COMPLAINT*:

Name: Caterina Rios
[REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] S. [REDACTED] Zip Code: [REDACTED]
Home Telephone: [REDACTED] Cell: [REDACTED]

*STATE LAW REQUIRES WE HAVE TO DISCLOSE YOUR NAME UNLESS WE CAN SHOW THAT DISCLOSURE WILL RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL HARM TO YOU, SOMEONE ELSE OR THE PUBLIC PER A.R.S. § 41-1010. IF YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SUBSTANTIAL HARM WILL RESULT IN DISCLOSURE OF YOUR NAME PLEASE PROVIDE COPIES OF RESTRAINING ORDERS OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.

C. PATIENT INFORMATION (1):

Name: Monarch

Breed/Species: Cat (Domestic short haired)

Age: 7 months Sex: Female Color: blue tabby

PATIENT INFORMATION (2):

Name: _____

Breed/Species: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____ Color: _____

D. VETERINARIANS WHO HAVE PROVIDED CARE TO THIS PET FOR THIS ISSUE:

Please provide the name, address and phone number for each veterinarian.

Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic 5408 South 12th Avenue Tucson, AZ 85706
520-889-9643

Pima Animal Care Center 4000 N. Silverbell Road Tucson, AZ 85745
520-724-5969

Exceptional Pets 2585 N. Abrego Dr Green Valley, AZ 85614
5205953010

E. WITNESS INFORMATION:

Please provide the name, address and phone number of each witness that has direct knowledge regarding this case.

Attestation of Person Requesting Investigation

By signing this form, I declare that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Further, I authorize the release of any and all medical records or information necessary to complete the investigation of this case.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

F. ALLEGATIONS and/or CONCERNS:

Please provide all information that you feel is relevant to the complaint. This portion must be either typewritten or clearly printed in ink.

I took my kitten of 5 months that I adopted though Pacc in Tucson. She was diagnosed with calicivirus through Pacc she was never tested and we received a free pet checkup from pacc three days after adoption she dramatically changed behaviors. She had eye discharge, wheezing, and was sneezing. So my fiancé and I decided to use the free vet check up. The vet tech was very kind and seemed very knowledgeable, about Calicivirus and eye discharge. She stated that she most likely would need medicine for it, and the virus most likely was active again. But when Dr. Chiasson came in he made us feel like it was all a big joke. While checking her lungs he made made a joke saying "I can't tell if it's me or her wheezing, since I'm sick" He stated she looked fine, and just told us over the counter medicine "Viralys" would make it go away. Also stating "I think you just put a small amount on her nose, It tastes good, although I wouldn't try it myself" and laughed. The fact that he said "I think" was very misleading, and uncomfortable for a vet to say. We got the medicine, and started using it. Two days later, she started having a very hard time breathing, and we were wiping her eye discharge 2x a day with a warm washcloth. We called Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic at week later, and got in through a emergency check up. She had a fever, and the vet heard stuff in her lungs, as well as ring worm. They gave her fluids, Ketoprofen 100mg for agent fever reducing and pain. They told me she was definitely sick, with a respiratory infection, but wasn't sure if it was calicivirus due to Pacc never actually testing for it. They send us home with Osior 6mg, Amoxi/Clav 200mg, and Terramycin Ophthalmic ointment. If you need to reach out to me, my phone number is

[REDACTED] Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. Our cat Monarch is
[REDACTED] better after the help of Santa Cruz vet clinic.

Dr Timothy Chiasson, DVM

Exceptional Pets

2585 N Abrego Dr, Sahuarita AZ 85614

(520) 595-3010 tim.chiasson@destpet.com

04/06/2022

Tracy A. Riendeau

CVT

Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board

1740 W Adams St. Ste 4600 Phoenix AZ 85007

Dear Tracy A. Riendeau:

On 01/25/2022, I was presented with Monarch (Spelled Monarc in our system) for examination. I found the cat to be afebrile and asymptomatic. At the time, diagnostics did not seem necessary, as well as antibiotic therapy. I sent the cat home with Lysine.

According to the owner, the cat became symptomatic a few days later and she sought care approximately one week later at another clinic. According to the report, recovery was uneventful.

It should be noted that I never recommend placing medication on a patients' nose, and those were not my words. I cannot recall discussing Calici Virus with the client.

Sincerely,

 T. Chiasson DVM

Tim Chiasson, DVM License 3198

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
- GOVERNOR -



VICTORIA WHITMORE
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR -

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VETBOARD.AZ.GOV

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board

FROM: AM Investigative Committee: Carolyn Ratajack - Chair
Christina Tran, DVM
Robert Kritsberg, DVM
Jarrod Butler, DVM
Steven Seiler

STAFF PRESENT: Tracy A. Riendeau, CVT – Investigations
Marc Harris – Assistant Attorney General

RE: Case: 22-102

Complainant(s): Caterina Rios

Respondent(s): Timothy Chiasson, DVM (License: 3198)

SUMMARY:

Complaint Received at Board Office: 3/11/22

Committee Discussion: 8/2/22

Board IIR: 9/28/22

APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES:

Laws as Amended August 2018

(Lime Green); Rules as Revised September 2013 (Yellow).

On January 25, 2022, "Monarch," a 5-month-old female domestic shorthair cat was presented to Respondent for an exam after adoption. Complainant was concerned the cat had an upper respiratory infection. The cat was examined and was discharged with Lysine.

On February 2, 2022, due to the cat worsening, Complainant brought the cat to Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic. The cat was examined; treatment was provided and the cat was discharged with medications.

Complainant was noticed and did not appear.

Respondent was noticed and did not appear.

The Committee reviewed medical records, testimony, and other documentation as described below:

- Complainant(s) narrative: *Caterina Rios*
- Respondent(s) narrative/medical record: *Timothy Chiasson, DVM*
- Consulting veterinarian(s) narrative/medical record: *Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic*

PROPOSED 'FINDINGS of FACT':

1. On January 25, 2022, the kitten was presented to Respondent two days after adoption. The shelter had indicated to Complainant that the cat had an upper respiratory infection. The cat was not coughing, vomiting or having diarrhea; the cat had some sneezing. Upon exam, the cat had a weight = 2.13 pounds, a temperature = 101.1 degrees, a pulse rate = 200bpm, and a respiration rate = 32rpm. No abnormalities were noted by Respondent. Respondent's did not see a need for diagnostics or antibiotics and discharged the cat with Lysine; Viralys Gel 5oz – small amount orally once a day.
2. According to Complainant, Respondent made them feel like their concerns for the cat were a joke. He made jokes while examining the kitten and Complainant was advised to put an over the counter medication on the cat's nose. Respondent denies instructing the pet owner to put the medication on the kitten's nose.
3. Complainant stated that a couple days later, the kitten began to have a hard time breathing and they were wiping her eyes with a warm washcloth.
4. On February 2, 2022, the cat was presented to Dr. Neal at Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic for a recheck. The cat was sneezing, wheezing, and had ocular discharge. Upon exam, the cat had a weight = 3 pounds, a temperature = 102.5 degrees, a pulse rate = 160bpm, and a respiration rate = 24rpm. The cat had watery ocular discharge, mild fever, and was 5 – 7% dehydrated. Spay incision site was healing well, no ulcers on tongue or palate. Dr. Neal suspected URI/herpes/calici/viral. She noted mild ringworm and it was recommended to apply an over the counter medication on the tips of ears. The cat was administered ketoprofen and SQ fluids and discharged with onsier, amoxi/clav, and terramycin eye ointment.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:

The Committee discussed that Complainant felt Respondent was making light of the cat's condition. It appeared to be a communication issue but it did not rise to the level of a violation.

COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED CONCLUSIONS of LAW:

The Committee concluded that no violations of the Veterinary Practice Act occurred.

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION:

Motion: It was moved and seconded the Board:

Dismiss this issue with no violation.

Vote: The motion was approved with a vote of 5 to 0.

The information contained in this report was obtained from the case file, which includes the complaint, the respondent's response, any consulting veterinarian or witness input, and any other sources used to gather information for the investigation.

TR

Tracy A. Riendeau, CVT
Investigative Division